



FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

Two Freedom Square • 11955 Freedom Drive • Reston, VA 20190-5675 • 571.203.2700 • Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)



2615  
dbs  
RICHARD V. BURGUJIAN  
571-203-2790  
[rich.burgujian@finnegan.com](mailto:rich.burgujian@finnegan.com)

June 14, 2004

Suzuye & Suzuye  
Kasumigaseki UBE Building  
3-7-2 Kasumigaseki  
Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100-0013, JAPAN

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JUN 23 2004

Technology Center 2600

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/662,230  
Inventors: Hideo ANDO et al.  
Your Reference: T4KM-00S0734  
Our Reference: 04329.2387

Dear Sirs:

Further to our letter of May 20, 2004, this letter provides our comments on the Office Action dated May 10, 2004. A response to the outstanding Office Action is due on or before **August 10, 2004**, which may be extended, with the payment of appropriate fees, to expire on November 10, 2004.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 15-23 are pending and under current examination. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected all the above claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Tada (U.S. Patent No. 5,982,980). Because this is a first Office Action after the filing of a RCE, this Office Action is not final.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 5, 6, and 15, we note that Tada does not disclose at least “dividing said first audio information managed in the music reproduction unit into second audio information and third audio information,” as required by claim 5; “combining said fourth audio information and said fifth audio information to form sixth audio information,” as required by claim 6; and “reproducing said program chain information to search for the representative image, and reproducing the audio information corresponding to the searched representative image,” as required by claim 15. We propose to request withdrawal of the rejection for at least the reason that these elements are missing from the references.

Please advise us if you wish to add additional arguments or claim amendments to further define the present invention and to advance prosecution. We look forward to receiving Applicants’ instructions prior to the due date of **August 10, 2004**, consistent with allowing

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enough time for us to prepare a suitable Response to the Office Action. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments, please contact us.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Richard V. Burgujian\*

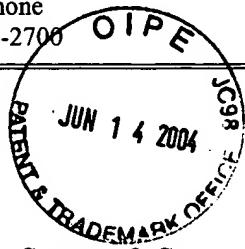
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\*Admitted in the District of Columbia only

LAW OFFICES  
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.  
11955 Freedom Drive  
Reston, VA 20190-5675

Telephone  
571-203-2700

Facsimile  
(202) 408-4400



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Name: **Phone No.:** 011 813 3502 3181  
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**FROM**

Name Richard V. Burgujian **Phone No.:** 571-203-2790  
Fax # Verified by: Michelle Murray @ MD749 **# Pages (incl. this)** 3  
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